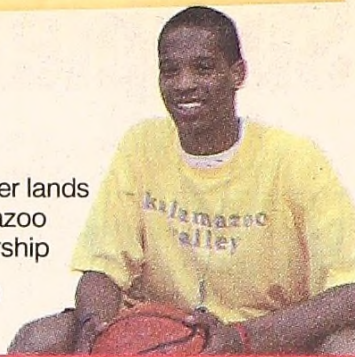


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Page 9



18, No. 20

News you can use, news you can trust

Incumbents, challengers vie for seats

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

The race is on.

Several community and statewide offices are up for election and many residents of Romulus and those who would like to represent the city turned out in droves to file petitions May 16.

At the state level, one senate seat and one representative seat are available, and both incumbents are seeking re-election. Sen. Ray Basham (D-Taylor), a two-term senator from the 8th District, will seek another four-year term. He will face two Republicans, Fred Kalsic and Guy Addison Rupert, whom are both from Taylor.

Basham will face one of the Republicans in the general election in November.

It's a different story for Rep Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor) who is seeking another two-year term as the State Representative for District 22. He will face another Democrat, Kenneth Johnson of Taylor, and a Republican,

Ben Armstrong, also of Taylor. Of the three, only Armstrong is assured a spot on the November ballot.

Basham, a resident of the district for the past 34 years, said he will seek the seat again because there are too many issues facing the Taylor-Romulus area that need to be addressed, like the need to maintain and create jobs, and making sure the older communities in the district get more consideration for development projects.

At a county level, Commissioner Ed Boike (D-Taylor) is also being challenged by Republican David Garrasi, who is also from Taylor, for the District 15 spot. Boike is seeking a 10th, two-year term on the 15-member commission.

Boike, a former parks and recreation director for the city of Taylor, was first elected to the seat in 1988 after he retired from the City of Taylor. He has previously said bringing jobs to the area was a priority, along with spurring development at the long-awaited Pinnacle Aeropark.

The Aeropark – which is situated on 1,200 acres of land near Detroit metropolitan Airport, should bring about 20,000 new jobs to western Wayne County. The commission has been investigating the delays during the 10-year life of the project.

District 15 is made up of Romulus, Taylor, South Rockwood, Brownstown Township, Flat Rock, Gibraltar and part of Huron Township.

Little is known about the men who are challenging Basham, Hopgood, and Boike at this stage of the campaign. Attempts to reach them after the filing deadline were unsuccessful.

Whoever is elected to the open seats will face a daunting atmosphere in Lansing. Wayne County unemployment levels exceed that of the state, which at around 6 percent, is one of the highest in the United States.

State legislators and county commissioners are among the highest paid in the country. Senators and representatives are paid about \$79,000 per year, and commissioners earn about \$69,000 annually.

The general election is scheduled Nov. 7.

City gets 'A' bond rating

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Borrowing money just became a little easier for the city and a little less expensive for residents now that Romulus has been granted an A rating for bonding by a prominent financial services group.

Fitch Ratings of Chicago gave the city an A-bond rating after an analysis of the city fiscal management, tax base viability, population growth or stability, industrial diversity, overall business climate and debt to revenue disparity, said Debra Hoffman, city financial director.

"Having a bond rating – and being able to maintain it over the past years – is a difficult feat, given what's happening in the rest of the state," she said. "Not many cities have been able maintain that rating. We're just thrilled with this."

Having a high bond rating may not be the first thing residents think of when they pay taxes, but bond ratings to municipalities are what credit scores are to individuals: They are a snapshot of fiscal responsibility, said Hoffman.

"When we go out for bonds, it means the interest rate will be lower, which of course means



Cleaning up

Romulus Clean Sweep swept through the city May 13, and many residents and officials turned out with shovels and bags to make their environment a little brighter. The initiative was created several years ago by Councilman LeRoy Burcroff, who with his group of helpers, was undeterred by rain. At city hall, Mayor Alan Lambert was passing out gloves and garbage bags to volunteers, along with a donut and juice. Joining resident volunteers in the citywide cleanup were fifth- and sixth-graders from Wick Elementary, Boy Scouts from Troop 808 and Cub Scouts from Pack 872. Lambert (above, center) is joined by Public Safety Director Charles Kirby, Jared Purcell, and Councilman John Barden.

2 seek 34th District Court judgeship

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

One incumbent and one challenger submitted filing fees to seek for an available seat on the 34th District Court bench in Romulus.

Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green will have to defend her seat after Belleville attorney Thomas Dipietro filed to challenge the incumbent for the spot on the bench. They are seeking a 6-year term.

The winning candidate will

join two other judges – David Parrott and Brian Oakley – at the court. The 34th District Court serves all of Belleville, Romulus, Van Buren Township and Huron Township.

See Judge, page 3

See Rating, page 3

Sumpter Country Fest planned next weekend

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Next week, Sumpter Township will be home to the 31st annual Sumpter Country Fest.

Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation will host the festival May 25-29, during Memorial Day weekend. The festival will include live music, lawnmower racing, championship wrestling, a carnival, woodcarving, a princess pageant, a car show and other daily events.

Located at the Sumpter Township Community Center on Sumpter and Dunn roads, the festival will be open from 4-11 p.m. on May 25, 4 p.m. to midnight on May 26, noon to midnight on May 27 and May 28 and noon to 10 p.m. on May 29.

The annual celebration started in 1975. It was a one-day event and only had 100 people in attendance. Since then, the event has continued to grow and add entertainment, according to the festival committee.

"This festival is about the country atmosphere," said Sharon Pokerwinski, sponsor advertisement coordinator. "We're out further and this is the country life so we do activities to emphasize it. That's what separates us from city-wide events."

The daily events will include: a carnival, a petting zoo, a silent auction, pony rides, a casino, bingo, a cutest baby contest, arts and crafts and food vendors.

The schedule will feature live entertainment by a DJ and area bands like Cedar Creek, Kahootz, Outer Limits and Insurrection. Musical tributes from the music of Cher, Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis, Dean Martin, Aretha Franklin, Ray Charles, the Beatles and others will also take place.

May 27, visitors can watch the annual parade at noon, which will honor three exceptional area residents this year.

Lysle and Sue Collyer, long-time residents of Sumpter, will be the grand marshals of the 2006 Sumpter Country Festival parade.

Jewel Harris Leonard and Pete and Marcy LaFramboise will be the honored citizens.

The Collyers have lived in the community for more than 75 years. Five generations of their family have grown, prospered and called home, they said, and they are hopeful Sumpter will continue to be a place where parents can plant their roots and raise families in a wholesome environment.

Leonard has been a citizen of Sumpter since 1959. She currently works as the office manager in the Sumpter Township Police Department.

The LaFramboises are the owners of the Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue in the township. The mission of the shelter is to protect animals and residents by cre-



Pete and Marcy LaFramboise



Jewel Leonard



Lysle and Sue Collyer

ating a healthy and safe environment. Their goal is to have a business that will teach healthy pet ownership, as well as bring future jobs to Sumpter Township, they said.

New this year, the Blue Water Championship Wrestling and the Michigan Lawnmower Racing Association Races will bring their shows to the event.

Other new events include a teen dance, an arts and scraps bus and other children's entertainment.

The festival will end with the USA Demolition Derby at 7 p.m. on

Memorial Day.

For more information, call 734-461-6201.

Belleville firefighters plan golf fundraiser

Belleville Fire Department members are brushing up on their golf in order to generate funds for the department.

Firefighter Mike Gudith, organizer of the event, said that the upcoming outing is the first-ever golf fundraising event for the fire squad. It will take place at 1:30 p.m. on Aug. 26 at the Woodlands of Van Buren Golf Course. Tickets are \$80 per golfer and will include: an 18 hole golf game and cart, a four person best ball scramble, lunch at the turn, raffles, prizes, two drinks and a dinner buffet.

"There's a chance to get a lot of good stuff

just for showing up, too," said Gudith.

Gudith said the Belleville Fire Department hopes to generate about \$10,000-\$15,000 from the first time event. The department also hopes to make this into an annual outing.

Numerous donations from area businesses and people have already come in. Several donations have already been made, including: a 2006 Mustang from Atchinson Ford, a four wheeler from Champion Power Sports, a cruise for two from Cruise One in Westland, three hours of limousine service from A1, golf, bags, gloves, hats and

other gift certificates and prizes.

"The coolest thing that I think people will enjoy is one of the holes will be filled with foam instead of a sand trap," said Gudith. "People are already talking about it and will for a long time."

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased by calling Gudith at (734) 697-8166 or Mark Schlund at (734) 355-2399.

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DA VINCI CODE (PG-13) 12:25, 1:10, 3:20, 4:05, 6:15, 7:00, 9:10, 9:55
FRI/SAT LS 12:05

OVER THE HEDGE (PG) 1:15, 3:10, 5:15, 7:10, 9:05
FRI/SAT LS 11:00

POSEIDON (PG-13) 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30 FRI/SAT LS 11:40

JUST MY LUCK (PG-13) 12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:05, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:35

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE 3 (PG-13) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

RV (PG) 12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 6:55, 9:10
FRI/SAT LS 11:25

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THE CITY OF ROMULUS REQUEST TO RECEIVE BIDS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- BID 05/06-36 RFD TURN OUT GEAR
- BID 05/06-37 WATER SERVICE SPECIALTY TRUCK
- BID 05/06-38 DEMO LIST 05-02
- BID 05/06-39 LAWN CARE
- MAINTENANCE SERVICE CONTRACT
- BID 05/06-40 CALCIUM CHLORIDE
- STORAGE TANK TRANSFER SYSTEM
- BID 05/06-41 AS400 HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE
- ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT
- BID 05/06-42 ONBASE HARDWARE & SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT
- BID 05/06-43 BASEBALL FIELD SCARIFIER

The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified vendors for the above item/s and/or service/s.

(1) Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit bids must do so on forms provided by the City. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Lynn A. Conway, Purchasing Coordinator, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan, by calling (734) 955-4568 or by emailing Iconway@ci.romulus.mi.us or on the City of Romulus Web Site, www.romulusgov.com

(2) Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the City Clerk's Office no later than 3:00 p.m., Thursday, June 01, 2006. At that time said bids would be publicly opened and read.

BID ENVELOPES MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE BID NUMBER AND NAME AND BE ADDRESSED TO

BID#
CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK'S OFFICE
11111 Wayne Road,
Romulus, Michigan, 48174

(3) The right is reserved to reject any and all bids and proposals and to waive technicalities.

Publish: May 18, 2006

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Discount to City, State and County Employees

2 face off for state representative spot

Kristen Pererson
Staff Writer

Two men will challenge State Rep. Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor) in a primary election on Aug. 8.

Challengers Ben Armstrong (R-Taylor) and Kenneth Johnson (D-Taylor) will oppose Hopgood in an effort to earn the opportunity to appear on the ballot in the general election in November. The winner of the general election will represent Romulus and Taylor in the Michigan House of Representatives.

Hopgood has been a resident of Taylor for more than 25 years and has served in the house since 2002. Armstrong, also a Taylor resident, currently works with AM talk

radio. Johnson was not available for comment.

Both Hopgood and Armstrong said a key election issue will be the economy of Michigan. Both candidates have ideas about how to boost the economy.

Hopgood said education is the key to fixing the economy, too.

"We need to make sure that the local school districts are supported and that everyone has access to higher education," he said.

"The governor has called for a revamping of the Michigan Merit Award Scholarship to set people ahead in their pursuit for higher education. I will continue to push for that," he added.

While Hopgood is focusing on education, Armstrong said he plans to focus on making Michigan

more business friendly.

"Many businesses are leaving the state and we need to bring new businesses in," Armstrong said. "The recent minimum wage increase is not helpful to struggling businesses."

If a person who wants to start a business has to choose between Michigan and Ohio, they would choose Ohio because the minimum wage is not increasing there, Armstrong said.

Armstrong wants to help new businesses by creating an incentive that allows a business to be tax free for the first five or six years, he said.

"We need to help small and large businesses alike," he said.

Armstrong also hopes to cut taxes.

"With Michigan's economy struggling, we need to cut taxes to boost the economy. We need to cut the single business tax. Michigan is currently the only state with this tax," Armstrong said.

Hopgood also hopes to stimulate the economy by cutting taxes.

"I've supported the governor's efforts and passed multiple pieces of legislation to provide tax breaks," Hopgood said.

Hopgood will also keep fighting to protect the environment, he said.

"The environment is something we must continue to work on. We have to protect the Great Lakes and against trash imports from Canada," he said. "These are long range issues that affect the entire state and region."

Canine showcase will honor fallen soldiers

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

The first annual "With Angels Wings" canine expo and showcase promises to be a doggone good time.

The event, which begins Saturday, May 27 at Currey's Family Pet Care in Romulus, is also for a good cause: The proceeds will help Darcy Monier, a local woman who lost her son, 20-year-old Army Spc. Donald Roy McClure, 19 months ago in Iraq, create a scholarship fund. She's also hoping to build a statute of her son in his hometown of Chelsea.

"I thought this would be a good thing to do for my son," she said.

"There's an ongoing effort in Chelsea to honor the service members lost in war."

Monier, an avid animal lover who has rescued more than 100 dogs and cats, works as a veterinary technician at Animal Neurology and MRI Center in Canton Township. She said tying animals into an event conceived to recognize the life of a fallen soldier is appropriate because McCune also loved dogs.

"I've been doing animal rescue for a long time now, and we brought a dog home, and Donald asked to keep this one," she said. "I said, 'absolutely not, you already have two at home.' So I kept the dog, and we were trying some dock diving. In my last conversation with Donald, he told me that pit bulls couldn't jump or swim. Two days later, he died."

To get out of the house, Monier took Mischa, the pit bull,

out to a dock diving competition, and the dog took home the third-place prize.

The expo is open to all dogs and their companions. Demonstrations in a variety of canine sports including dock diving, agility, search and rescue and flyball will take place. Owners will be able to watch and learn more about each sport, but they will also have a chance to try it out with a furry friend.

Jerri Mach, an animal enthusiast and organizer of the expo, said hopes the event catches on with residents who enjoy animals, but also want to show support U.S. Troops abroad.

"Our goal is to create a spectacular event for the dog lovers of the area while also establishing a memorial fund that will honor not only this soldier but all of those who put their lives

on the line to defend our country every day," she said.

Organizers are hoping interested residents can make some donations to get the event off the ground, however. Mach said she would like to have raffles and contests, but she needs prizes to offer. The group also needs supplies like napkins, forks and plates, as well as food and refreshments. Monetary contributions are also appreciated, she said.

Currey's is a full-service dog training facility located on Van Born Road at Hannan Road.

If you would like to contribute or need more information please call or e-mail Patrick Currey at (734) 550-6212 or dogboyii@comcast.net, Mach at (313) 565-1773 or boxerlover76@yahoo.com. The deadline for donations will be Tuesday, May 23.

Judge - Both candidates have vision, experience to get the job done

FROM PAGE 1

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Rating - Bond score makes borrowing cheaper for city and its residents

FROM PAGE 1

we'd be paying less," she said. "Less would be coming out of tax revenues."

A poor bond rating can hurt municipalities attempting to redevelop because borrowing costs go

up significantly as the bond rating goes down, Hoffman said.

The last time the city issued bonds was 1994, and the city had an A bond rating at that time. Hoffman was unable to estimate the savings of the higher rating, but she said the savings would be

in the thousands if, for instance the city had an A- rating, as it has in the past.

The city last went out for bonds this month when the Romulus City Council approved \$7 million in infrastructure bonds. Those bonds will officially be issued May

23.

The Tax Increment Financing Authority also issued another \$18.5 million in bonds to pay for the refurbishment and expansion of an old warehouse facility on Wayne Road, which will be the new recreation facility.

News in brief

YWCA offers summer day camp

The Western Wayne County YWCA has organized its 2006 Summer Day Camp.

Students are invited to spend the summer having fun, making new friends, going on field trips and playing games for the entire summer.

Each week of camp will have a different theme. Students will spend a week showing their support for the United States, discovering the great outdoors, learning about different countries, and exploring outer space. Camp activities include swimming, basketball, games, scavenger hunts, science experiments, movies, arts and crafts, pizza parties, field trips and a talent show.

The YWCA has a special offer for those ages 11 to 15. They can sign up to participate in the Counselor-in-Training (CIT) Program, which is designed to offer them an opportunity to learn the basics of camp counseling.

Camp begins June 26 and ends Aug. 18. Campers will meet from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Before and after care is available. Parents can sign children up for the entire eight-week camp, or on a weekly or daily basis. Sibling discounts are available.

For more information or to register a child, call the YWCA Western Wayne County Camp Department at (313) 561-4110 ext. 17.

High school announces performance dates

Romulus High School students will perform an adaptation of Geoffrey Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* on May 26 and 27.

The tales, which originally totaled 30, have been cut down to eight, including the tales by the Reeve, the Franklin, the Wife of Bath, the cook, the Pardoner, the Miller and the Prioress, said Shannon Collum Mullins, interim director of the play.

From 5:30 until 6:45 p.m., just prior to the show on Friday, May 26, the freshman class will host a silent auction that includes a Dale Tiffany desk lamp, cranberry colored art glass and various gift baskets, Mullins said.

The play begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and seniors.

OPINION

All aboard the Titanic?

“We’re all in the same boat.”

Of all the clichés in their explanation box, public officials are apt to pull that one out when they’re talking about two things: difficult budget situations or handing out raises to employees.

Strangely, it can be either a good thing or a bad thing from their perspective.

The City of Romulus most recently used this attitude to justify some big raises at the department head and assistant department head level. The reason, officials said, is because they wanted the salaries for their employees to be more in line with those in other communities. They knew that some of their standouts had received job offers elsewhere and they wanted to keep them, not train their replacements.

We’re not just picking on Romulus, here. This is actually something that every community does when they set salaries. They use other communities as benchmarks to tell what employees there earn and then adjust their rates accordingly. It works out well for them—the benchmarks keep getting higher, salaries keep going up and municipal leaders can just raise their hands in defeat and say they’re only following the trends.

At the same time, they are just as quick to point to the budget difficulties shared by everyone in the State of Michigan—probably to defend their own spending practices. “We’re all suffering,” they say, usually followed by the tagline: “but we’re in better shape than some of our neighbors.”

Well, do you think there’s a correlation here?

This can be a frustrating thing for Mr. And Mrs. Joe Taxpayer to watch during an economic time like this. More and more of our tax dollars go to support government employees, not the programs we are more likely to use. Taxes go up, services dwindle.

We know we can’t point the blame in any one area. The locals yell at the state for reducing their revenue sharing. State legislators keep pushing more and more responsibilities back on the locals. We know the municipal funding model is broken in Michigan. Something has to give.

Local officials, though, probably aren’t being realistic if they think the state will solve all their problems. They need to take action, too, other than chopping away at the bottom of the heap. Maybe a good place to start would be to set salary levels at what they can afford, rather than what their neighbors can.

District program earns highest possible marks

Residents in the Wayne-Westland Community School District were treated to something rare this past weekend: an idea spawned by a proactive school board.

The halls and rooms of Franklin Middle School in Wayne were opened Saturday morning for Project 180, too. As the name implies, it was the second installment of a program designed to help parents in the district through a variety of inspirational and informative lectures.

Parents could gain advice on how to prepare their children for the next step in their education, be that middle or high school or even college (they could learn how to prepare for the expense of that, too, a very worthy lesson during a time of rapidly increasing enrollment costs.)

Other topics included how to use positive discipline to eradicate negative behavior and a number of other social issues.

We can’t say enough about this program. We were impressed with

See **Program**, page 5



You know it’s a tough year when...

I settled into the chair at the Wayne County Regional Education Service Agency auditorium and prepared for a long night.

The chair was quite comfortable, well padded and soft—a distinct contrast to the hard folding ones used on the stage by the Wayne City Council. The city leaders faced the large audience—some of their faces concerned, others stoic—as they prepared for a tough budget study session.

Never before has such a short distance separated the cozy chairs from the hot seats, I remarked to myself as I scanned the crowd.

Like the council, I expected a night filled with tearful solicitations and a bit of melodrama as the residents of Wayne filed up to the microphone to implore the council not to cut whatever program they were there to support.

The programs were numerous, too, from the competitive figure skating club to the Wayne Youth Theater and Actors Community Theater to basic services like police and fire.

I had my own interests, of course—I didn’t

want anything to hinder the fight against blight. The Dangerous Building Ordinance has proven very successful since it was implemented, but it’s a long, often expensive process and the city is short staffed in the building department as it is. I just don’t want it to lose any momentum.

I’m also rooting for the police department, too, and not just because I rely on their good graces to give me information about crimes and so on in the city. They are generally a young, energetic bunch, proactive and efficient in what they do. I was surprised to see two police officer positions on the chopping block, as well as a dispatcher and records coordinator.

In me, at least, Police Chief John Williams had a captive audience when he spoke. About 40 seconds after he brought up the topic, it should have been clear to anyone in the room: this is a man of

See **Chief**, page 5

When school boards go to far

What is the role of the school board in the public education system?

Set up school policy—lay down the law? Check.

Design the curriculum? Check.

Manage the district budget? Check.

Ask taxpayers for more money? Check, and probably more often than they should in some cases.

Look out for the best interest of the students? Check.

Hire and fire winning coaches? Check...

What? Wait a second. When did this fall into the job description of school board members?

I don’t think it does.

However, a few weeks ago a coach was let go (a.k.a.—fired) due to what he called overwhelming pressure from school board members.

Is this right and do school board members have the right to overstep those boundaries?

Frankly, I don’t think so. All a decision like this can do is create a mess. Sure, the board members will try to paint a pretty picture to justify their actions but unless there is a Picasso or Van Gogh in the bunch, pretty won’t accurately describe their decision. In fact it could be quite the opposite.

The Inkster school board members colored outside the lines when they put pressure on Greg Carter, the Inkster athletic director, to fire high school basketball coach Gerald Paschal.

“Carter said that the school board wanted to, ‘go in a different direction,’” Paschal said.

What direction could they possibly want to go?

Paschal has had a winning record in each of the last three years. The Vikings never finished below

third place in conference standings under his guidance. Last year he finished 14-7 and in second place. This year he and his team were picked by several publications, including this one, to win the conference outright and make a run at the district championship, too.

And they want to go in a different direction?

According to Paschal, it really came down to two board members (I won’t mention any names because you know who you are and should hang your heads now) who railroaded Paschal out of his job.

Paschal said these two members didn’t like the grade point average he demanded the players keep up. If the GPAs slipped below the required 2.0 or if the athletes had a history of getting in trouble, Paschal wouldn’t let them try out. These requirements hindered several players (supposedly good players) from being able to play on the team.

As a result, however, the team reached an all-time high GPA of 2.8 and was on track to win the conference and possibly district championships.

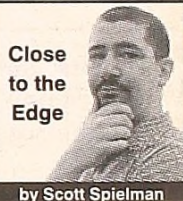
Again, what direction do they want to go?

Paschal, to my knowledge, didn’t do anything wrong except maybe care too much.

The other factor in Paschal’s dismissal was the fact that he’s not an Inkster product—something the board members want in their coaches.

According to Paschal, these two board members were pushing for Barry Hardy to take over the pro-

See **Coach**, page 5



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman



From the cheap seats

by Jeff Novak

JOURNAL

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City needs volunteers for Memorial Day events

The City of Belleville is looking for volunteers to help with the flag placing for Memorial Day.

The Cemetery Advisory Committee will place American Flags on the graves of all veterans who are buried at Hillside Cemetery at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday.

Volunteers are needed to help place flags. Each section will take about an hour.

The city is also seeking volunteers to help plant flowers in downtown Belleville.

The Belleville Downtown Development Authority will plant as part of their annual beatification day that will take place from 9 a.m. until noon on Saturday.

Volunteers will meet at the Fourth Street Square on Main Street and plant all of the planters along Main Street and in the Village Park at Victoria Commons.

A complimentary lunch and dessert coupon will be provided upon completion of work.

For more information about either event, contact city hall at (734) 697-9323.

Program

FROM PAGE 4

the idea when School Board President Fred Weaver first suggested it. We were impressed with the execution of it and the turn out at the first phase of the program, which took place last year at Adams Middle School. That program was geared more to students, but it provided valuable advice for parents on how to find and keep jobs—therefore creating stability in areas of the district where students suffered from a relatively transitory lifestyle.

This program was just as effective and positive because it followed up on the initial promise of the first. It not only recognizes the important role parents and a sta-

Coach

FROM PAGE 4

gram as much as a year ago.

Who's Hardy?

He's a former Inkster Viking and earned some fame as a Globetrotter.

Just when the Inkster basketball program was starting to be taken seriously they want a Globetrotter at the helm. The Globetrotters, in my opinion, were (are) a joke, laughable entertainment—nothing more than skit comedy.

Is this the direction they really want go?

Furthermore, I don't remember the Washington Generals ever being a part of the Mega Conference.

If Hardy were to get the job, it could cause further friction in the Inkster athletic program. The board members wanted Hardy to be the athletic director before they hired Carter. Imagine the conflict this scenario could spawn, especially

ble family life play in the education of our children, but took the next step in fostering that role.

Districts across the State of Michigan—and probably across the nation, too—face innumerable challenges as they try to prepare our children for the future. Many talk about the problems and gripe about them, but few take such a well-rounded approach to their solution.

We think the district should be honored for their commitment to the family as a whole and the students in general. Weaver, although he may not admit it, deserves a lot of the credit but the administration and the rest of the school board deserves accolades as well. This could not be successful without a combined group effort. Good job, all.

since Carter is not an Inkster product and board members continue to undermine his power—power which they granted him—and the ability to do the job he was hired to do.

The community of Inkster should not be fooled by the grand brush strokes the school board members pretend to make. The pictures they try to paint are not worthy of the community refrigerator on which it will be displayed for everyone to see. It is merely a grand illusion—an attempt for the members to sneak a friend in the back door and take over a job he doesn't rightfully deserve.

I understand that the school board members want to win at all costs—disregard grades and let any player play. However, what good is a conference, district, regional or even a state championship to an athlete if he/she doesn't have the grades to go on to college? That's what Paschal pushed for. He was watching out for the best interest of the student athletes. Why aren't the school board members?

Chief

FROM PAGE 4

the people. A man who has faced uncounted dangers throughout his long career, his voice strained with emotion as he talked about the potential negative impact the proposed cuts would have.

I empathize with the city employees at a time like this, when they're forced to make these tough decisions and eliminate programs that nobody wants to get rid of. I felt a little more for Williams, though. I mean, I don't want to make light of his situation, but here's a guy who's had a pretty tough year.

It's true that he was appointed chief in January from a number of other internal candidates. The first thing he had to do was promote two of his colleagues

into other leadership roles, essentially disappointing half of his force.

Now he's looking at a potential layoff of two new hires as well as staffers who have been around for a while and had a positive impact in the department.

Granted, he hasn't been in the job long enough to do much in the way of long-term planning, but I'm fairly certain he didn't think his first few months on the job would consist of drawing a proverbial line in the sand to defend the staff levels and expenditures.

I know, the decisions haven't been made yet—there's another study session scheduled before the public hearing and adoption of the budget next month.

City officials have said they might be able to come to a compromise to save most, if not all, of the threatened programs.

I hope so. For his sake, and ours.



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Police, fire layoffs proposed

Scott Spielman
Editor

If the budget presented to the Wayne City Council is approved as proposed, it could have a serious impact on the Wayne Police Department.

In an effort to balance the budget and make up for a budget shortfall, the city has proposed the layoff of two police officers, an emergency dispatcher and eliminate the records coordinator position.

"We understand that the police department is not an island in the community," said Police Chief John Williams, "but we have some concerns about this budget."

The two police officers whose jobs may be in jeopardy were only hired four months ago. They started in January, filling positions that were vacated by promotions in the wake of the retirement of former Police Chief Mike Sumeracki and Lt. Tom Miller.

Without those two new officers, the department would be running short on the day shift and they would be without a dedicated traffic officer.

"They're not an option," Williams said. "Those positions have to be filled."

If the council decides to approve the plan and lay the officers off, he said he would have to reevaluate several department programs to ensure that there were enough officers patrolling

the streets. That means the potential elimination of the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program, pulling an officer out of the Metro Street Enforcement Unit (M-Set), evaluating the Community Oriented Police Crime Reduction Unit (COPCRU) and taking the school resource officers out of Franklin Middle School and Wayne Memorial High School.

Williams said that would hamper the effectiveness of the department. Ofc. Rob Puckett, who has served as high school officer—through a grant that was paid for in part by the Wayne-Westland School District—for several years, has more than proved the worth of the program.

The dispatch department has nine positions, with three scheduled for each shift. There is currently a vacant position on the midnight shift, and laying off another dispatcher would cause increased overtime and take command officers away from their regular duties so they could handle walk-in complaints and assist when the dispatchers need breaks or are too busy.

"We've been managing, but it's been difficult," he said.

In addition to the staff levels, Williams said the department has some necessary capital expenditures, including two new marked police cars, a new K-9 vehicle, 13 new mobile data computers, six in-car video cameras—which record incident

scenes and reduce liability to the department. They also need to upgrade the 911 system due to changing technology.

Williams said he hoped some compromise could be reached.

"I understand the city is in a budget crisis," he said. "I understand that we're in a difficult time. I know it would be selfish for the police department not to take any cuts."

The elimination of a firefighter position could also have an impact on firefighter safety, according to Fire Chief Tim Reynolds. He said the department was already short-staffed—he had wanted to hire an additional firefighter this year, but did not request the additional body.

"We did not request any increase in staffing," he said. "We are just trying to maintain the same level of service we provide."

The fire fleet is getting older, too, he said. A new aerial truck should be purchased this year, but that expense was put off, too. That means, however, that the city will be overdue to purchase that and a new pumper truck, which Reynolds had wanted to put in for during the next fiscal year.

The proposed budget calls for cuts in several departments and the layoff of 10 full-time people, overall, as well as the reduction in hours for several full-time equivalents.



Sweet stuff

Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland was filled with children last Saturday when the bakery offered families a sweet deal: a chance to decorate Mother's Day cakes for that special someone in their lives. From toddlers to adults, visitors turned cakes iced with plain white frosting into fantasy creations. Although most of the cakes were decorated specifically for Mom, some decorators like Kerstin McConville (right), also detailed treats for their grandmothers, great-grandmothers, families, and friends. The decorating event is an annual store tradition.



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THE SCENE

POSEIDON

It's a disaster all right

There's no reason whatsoever to go see *Poseidon*. The remake of the 1972 disaster movie contains all of the cliches one would expect in a formulaic movie and then some. A better use of time and imagination would be to simply add up the all the explosions and stilted dialogue found in cheesy melodramas, throw in a big boat and assume you've already seen the film.

It's a disaster movie, all right. For those who don't know the story, it takes place on a luxury cruise ship named The Poseidon, named for the Greek god of the sea which Capt. Bradford (Andre Braugher) conveniently reminds everyone who had forgotten their third grade mythology lesson.

The ship is flipped over completely by what Bradford describes as a 'rogue wave.' These waves are, he informs the frightened crowd, very rare, but lethal.

He assures the hundreds of vacationers in the grand ballroom that they will be safe there, but a small group of passengers has other ideas and decides to make their escape by picking their way up through the ship, avoiding countless explosions, near drowning experience and showing an uncanny familiarity with charts, graphs and the inner workings of the gigantic boat.

They are led by Robert Ramsey (Kurt Russell) and Dylan Johns (Josh Lucas). Ramsey is wealthy, a former mayor of New York City. Johns is a professional gambler, and my cliché dictionary tells me I must add 'charming' to the description of his character. Of course, the word character is a bit much in describing these people; they are caricatures, forced to use dialogue that would make almost anyone cringe.

Ramsey, for example, offers to double and then triple the annual salary of one hapless cruise ship worker if he takes them to a stairway. Johns, of course, doesn't want to go with the group because he 'works better alone.'

Throw into the mix Ramsey's daughter, Jennifer (Emmy Rossum), the obnoxious 'Lucky' Larry (Kevin Dillon), Richard Nelson (Richard Dreyfuss), who goes from suicidal to fighting valiantly for his life in the span of about 30 seconds, and add Maggie James (Jacinda Barrett) and her son, Connor (Jimmy Bennett) and you have all the main players in this pseudo drama.

We're asked to care about these people, for some reason, while thousands of others suffer gruesome deaths and go unmourned. I couldn't help but wonder if any of them had more interesting stories behind them.

The big fallacy of the film is that we don't care about this handful of people as they make their laborious journey to the top (or bottom) of the ship, and freedom, in an ever-shrinking group. Their struggles ring false because they ring false, themselves. There are some tense moments, sure, but we all have a good idea that most everyone will get out alive, so we don't have to buy into the danger.

Even at a brisk 99 minutes, there is some action that is completely unnecessary, too. What 10-year-old boy, placed in a sinking cruise ship surrounded by floating and submerged dead bodies, would keep running away from his mother in order to find himself in even more dangerous situations?

Wolfgang Peterson directed this film and he's done others that have been much better. If you're really in the mood for a gripping sea drama, go see his *Perfect Storm* and leave *Poseidon* in the deep.

Reviewed By
Scott Spielman
Editor

It's pure misfortune to view Just My Luck

Whether it was bad luck or a temporary lapse in common sense, I embraced the challenge of watching and reviewing the latest Lindsay Lohan film, *Just My Luck*, this weekend.

Two hours and \$8.25 later, I want my money—not to mention my

time—back. *Just My Luck* is a romantic comedy about fate. Ashley (Lohan) has perpetually perfect luck—nothing ever happens to spoil her day. Rain stops when she appears, the most sought-after men in the world adore her, and cabs are always readily available for her—miraculously even in Manhattan at rush hour. Jake (Chris Pine), on the other hand, can't shake the bad luck that clings to him like a shadow. He's used to it, though, and he's learned to be prepared for virtually any problem—no matter how outlandish. Things change, though, when Ashley and Jake share a kiss and their fates reverse. Now Ashley's perfect world is falling apart while for the first time things are working out for Jake.

It's an interesting premise and the film could have been entertaining if it hadn't been so forced and cliché-ridden that it made it nearly unbearable to watch at some points. Some people may be concerned that this is an exaggeration; it's not. If anything, it's an understatement.

Before I saw the film, I jokingly told a friend that I could probably recount the story without stepping foot in the theater and offered half a dozen scenes that I was certain would be included. Even though I expected it, I was still horrified when the last of my predictions came across the screen. One hundred percent accuracy is great for spelling tests and shooting free throws, but not much fun at the movies. A little intrigue would have

gone a long way. Even worse, most of the gags are decades old. They were innovative for Charlie Chaplin, Lucille Ball and good old Charlie Brown, but in a modern setting they look like what they are: cheap jokes that have been worn out through sheer force of repetition throughout the years. One or two tucked in among otherwise 'new' humor can seem like a homage to classic jokes, but when all of the humor is dated, it commits the cardinal sin of comedy: it just isn't funny. Although not a particularly outstanding actress (i.e. *Freaky Friday*, *Herbie Fully Loaded*), Lohan does have a gift for comedy—particularly physical comedy. She makes a valiant effort to revitalize the trite scene and does a remarkable job of doing so. Pine isn't nearly as impressive—and it's really not that high a standard. He says the right things and does the right things yet everything he does still seems forced and contrived. It also doesn't help that his character is as bland as plain yogurt: wholesome and theoretically good without any redeeming personality. All in all, the film is as formulaic as any spaghetti Western or 'B' movie ever churned out by Hollywood. According to the theory, you can mix a recognizable leading lady and a handsome male lead and stir in a handful of wacky scenarios and hint of romance and POOF! A successful film is born. It's worked for films ranging from *Bringing Up Baby* to *Tootsie*, but *Just My Luck* doesn't have the talent or the writing to make it work.

Reviewed By
Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer



Hamilton Project scheduled for completion in Wayne

Scott Spielman
Editor

A stretch of Michigan Avenue will soon get a major upgrade in the City of Wayne.

Two projects are set to take place just west of Venoy Road that will clean up an old site and redevelop another one, according to City Planner Matt Miller.

The first is the completion of what had been known as the Hamilton Project. Located between the Auto Lab and the White Castle restaurant, the project was started in 2001, but has been stalled since 2002 because of issues between the property owner and the contractor.

"They were just going to abandon the project and leave it the way it was," Miller said.

The half-constructed building has been vacant and exposed to the weather since then, until the city cited it under the dangerous building ordinance last year.

The Wayne Planning Commission approved a site plan for the project last week, and the city council approved it Tuesday night.

"This is another success for the dangerous building ordinance," Miller said.

The project includes two buildings, a large 7,500-square-foot pole barn type structure at the back of the property and a

smaller 2,400-square-foot building at the front. Both are being constructed as leasable space and can house anything permissible in the city industrial zone.

"They don't have any tenants yet," Miller said.

The site plan shows the detention pond at the front of the property, which will help dress up the site, Miller said.

"It'll be designed as a landscape feature in the front of the property, rather than at the back," he said. "It'll make it look a lot better."

The White Castle restaurant next door will soon be torn down and replaced with a new structure, too, according to Miller. The new restaurant will emulate the one on Ford Road in Canton Township. Combined with the Auto Lab facility, which was redeveloped from a long vacant car dealership a little more than a year ago, the two projects combine to improve that stretch of roadway, Miller said.

City Engineer Ramzi El-Gharib gives credit to the dangerous building ordinance for spurring the completion of the Hamilton Project. The ordinance gives the city the authority to force landlords or property owners to fix up property that has been vacant and unmarketed for more than six months and that presents a safety concern for residents.

Wayne budget battle Theatre groups seek more time, not funds

Scott Spielman
Editor

Kate Livingston could hardly reach the microphone at the Wayne County Regional Education Service Agency annex last week, but that didn't matter.

The 10-year-old waited for it to be adjusted and then said her piece—in front of a filled auditorium at a Wayne budget study session that was recorded to be telecast on cable TV.

"If I didn't have (the theater) I wouldn't be able to do this," she told members of the Wayne City Council.

The theater groups—the Wayne Youth Theater and the Actors Community Theater (ACT)—are among programs that will be cut in the proposed 2006-2007 fiscal year budget. They are among the \$300,000 trimmed from the budget of the parks and recreation department, a figure that didn't sit well with Kim Alexander, director of the department, either.

"If you shut down the theater, you're shutting down my dreams and the dreams of others," Livingston continued.

The theater groups put on a variety of events in the Wayne Community. Most productions take place at the State Wayne Theater, where William Gibson's *A Miracle Worker* just wrapped up a successful run, but the group joins in on other community fundraisers, too, like the Friends of the Library murder mystery.

City Councilwoman Donna McEachern, who provides scholarships to theater programs, said the shows are always quality performances.

"It makes you very proud of what the acting community can do," she said.

It's not the first time the theater groups have faced elimination. About three years ago, they were nearly removed from the budget during a mid-

year budget review spurred by serious reductions in state shared revenue. The groups and the city council came up with a compromise, though, that would see the theater programs self-funded by the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

The current fundraising arm of the groups, Stage Door, grew out of that effort. They've since increased the number of fundraisers they've put on and the number of performances, too. Bill Spurlin, a member of Stage Door, said membership has increased from 15 to 70 people during that time and the theater groups will be self-funded ahead of schedule.

"What have we done for the City of Wayne? Everything you asked," he told the council. "I don't see why you'd want to eliminate a program like that. I would think the City of Wayne would want to embrace this program."

Amy Lucas, past president of Stage Door, said the theater groups have gained some notoriety during the past three years, too. They've attracted top quality actors and directors and increased the quality of the shows.

"We've drawn a lot of families to the City of Wayne," she said. "We're building a regional reputation."

She said the theater would put on the annual Halloween Walk, another threatened program, for a fundraiser for the theater groups and to ensure that it would stay in the community.

Colleen Meyer, arts and entertainment supervisor for the City of Wayne, said the theater provided plenty of benefits to the community, other than the increased notoriety. She said it gave young people more confidence to speak about what they believe in and it's an amenity that few other communities have.

"We're (just short) of being 100 percent self-funded," she said. "This is a good program to hold on to."



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SPORTS

Inkster hoopster lands Kalamazoo scholarship

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Facing challenges is part of the game of basketball, regardless of the individual.

Sometimes, challenges off the court can be more daunting to a high school athlete. However, a true star continues to shine even in the darkest times.

Inkster senior Jonathan Brown proves that there can be a sweet ending after bitter start.

Both of his parents are in jail, and the 17-year-old hasn't had a consistent place to stay during the last 18 months. For the last eight weeks he has been virtually living on the streets.

After his father was incarcerated more than two years ago, he and a friend took over the rent payment until the lease ran out. His father couldn't sign a new one, so Brown was sent packing.

He bounced around from friend's house to friend's house, staying with family when possi-

ble. Then he and four friends rented a house for most of their senior year – up to a few months ago – before he was sent to the streets again. He went back to house hopping and is now living with a cousin.

He's had to work to pay bills while going to school and practicing with the basketball team. And he's done it all while trying to keep his grades up and staying out of trouble.

With the cards stacked against him, Brown had every reason in the book to give up. He didn't and now his resilience will pay off.

Brown recently signed his letter of intent to play basketball at Kalamazoo Valley College on a scholarship.

"I think the experience has made me a better person," he said. "I learned that living out in the world is no joke and that you need an education. Every job that I applied for asked for a high school diploma."

Even though Kalamazoo is

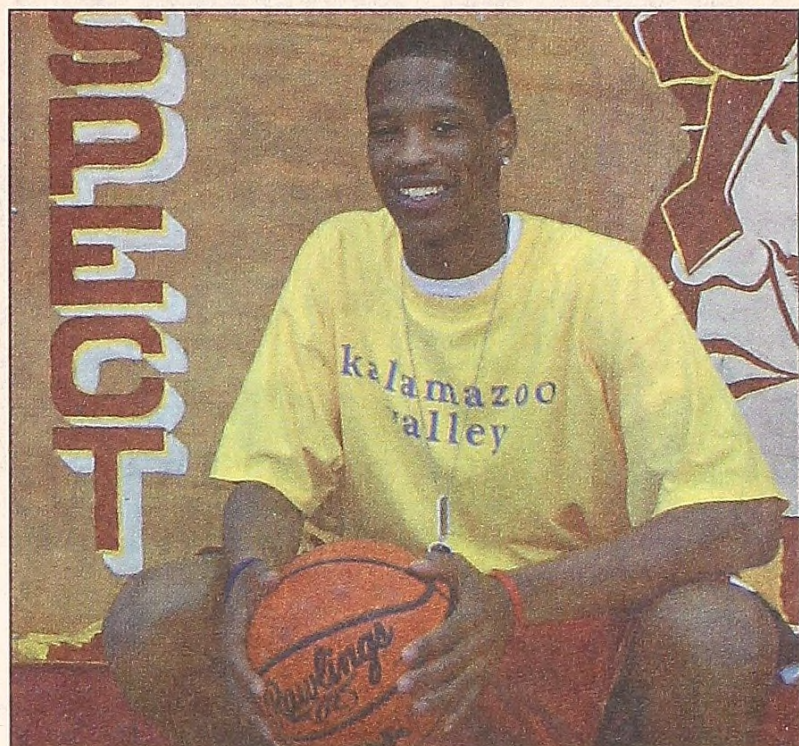
only a two-year, junior college, Brown is on the right track. He hopes it will give him time to improve on his 2.4 grade point average and give him the opportunity to transfer to a Division I school at the end of the two-year ride.

"At a junior college, the classes will be smaller and I'd be able to get more one-on-one instruction," Brown said. "That will better prepare me for a university rather than jumping right out from high school to a university. That would be difficult."

He said he would study the culinary arts with a dream of opening his own restaurant some day.

On the court, Brown should be able to contribute right away at Kalamazoo. He averaged 11 points a game in Inkster and led the Mega Conference with 12 rebounds per game, according to Inkster Coach Gerald Paschal.

"Kalamazoo is the best fit for him because the one thing they



Jonathan Howard overcame a life of diversity and earned the respect of basketball coaches at Kalamazoo College where he will play on a scholarship.

lacked last year was rebounding and that Jonathan's strength," he said. "They are getting a high school Ben Wallace who can also score."

To Paschal, there is no one more deserving of this scholarship than Brown.

"He has been one of the most loyal players that I have ever coached," he said. "Him getting

this scholarship is so emotional to me because I wanted to make sure that he gets the chance in life to succeed like he deserves."

Brown said he couldn't have made it without Paschal's and the rest of the Inkster High staff's help.

"Paschal is more like a second

See Inkster, page 11



Romulus senior and Michigan Accelerator Brittany Howard, flanked by her father Jackie (left) and mother Stephanie, signs her letter of intent to run track at Michigan State University this fall.

Howard heads to Michigan State

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Brittany Howard didn't own a pair of track shoes when she first started running track in middle school.

Running in her clunky gym shoes didn't stop the Romulus star from being one of the best, though.

The Romulus senior traded in clunky for sleek and, come fall, will lace up at Michigan State University. She recently signed her letter of intent to run as a Spartan.

The decision wasn't easy with Eastern Michigan University—one of the top

track programs in the state—and the University of Kentucky—one of the top programs in the country—recruiting her. She didn't make her final decision until a few days before the deadline.

The deciding factor came down to academics. State has one of the best medical programs in the country plus a kinesiology undergrad program in which she will study before heading into the medical program. In the end, State had exactly what she wanted.

"At first I didn't think I wanted to go there," she said, "but I realized that it was one of the best schools academically that

offered me money. Plus, I really fit in with the team and the coaches. They really made me feel welcomed."

Her parents had different reasons for loving State.

"MSU is the perfect school really," said her mother, Stephanie Howard. "It's just far enough away that she can't come home every weekend or call us to come get her or rescue her from petty things. But it is close enough that if she really needs us we can be there."

Choosing her college wasn't the only big decision in Howard's life. When she was

See Romulus, page 11

Fire up, Chips! Northville track star chooses Central Michigan

Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer

Northville High School senior Bryn Smetana recently had to make a tough decision and it didn't involve a prom dress or who to invite to her graduation party.

Smetana, who runs track as a captain for Northville, had to choose which one of seven colleges she was going to spend the next four years of her life. Universities throughout Michigan (Western Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Central Michigan, Grand Valley State) recruited her. Schools in Ohio (Kent State and Toledo) and Indiana (Ball State) were in the race, too.

After lots of thinking, Smetana decided she wanted to be a Chippewa. The runner will head to Central this fall.

"I was looking for the whole package," she said. "I wanted to find a place where I could get a good education and that has a solid running program."

Central is located in Mount Pleasant. She said her visit to campus, where she met her teammates, sold her on the school.

"I liked (coach Karen Lutzke) and all the girls on the team were cool," Smetana said. "I think I'll have a lot of fun (in Mount Pleasant)."

Smetana, who has run track

since seventh grade, will also run cross-country at Central. She runs in a number of events, including the 400-meter dash, and the 4x800 meter relay. She said her older brother, Kellen, and her younger brother, Cory, also run.

"I just started running after Kellen, and I've been doing it ever since," she said. "It makes it a little tough on my parents to make it to all of our meets, so they go to the ones they can for each of us."

Northville girls' track coach Nancy Smith has coached Smetana since she was a freshman. Smith said Smetana started out as a sprinter and developed into one of the top runners in the region. She also said Smetana is a leader and can fill any role a coach needs her to.

"She's a great girl," Smith said. "She's developed a strong work ethic that will help her on the collegiate level."

Smetana doesn't just run for her soon-to-be alma mater, though. She is also a member of the Michigan Accelerators.

The group started out as the Inkster Accelerators. Word spread about the group, which started with just three members. Because of word of mouth, more kids from more areas wanted to

See Northville, page 10



Michigan Accelerator and Northville track star Bryn Smetana chose to run at Central Michigan University this fall.

Northville

FROM PAGE 9

get involved with the Accelerators, prompting a name change.

The kids practice at the Romulus Middle School track in the spring and summer, and at the Romulus High School track in the colder months. Youths come from as far as Brighton to be a part of this group.

The kids who are fortunate enough to be a part of the Accelerators range from age 5 and go all the way up to high school seniors. They compete in 30 events from November to May in an indoor and outdoor season. Whereas joining other teams might cost more than some can afford, these athletes pay only \$150, which goes toward uniforms, equipment, training and event fees.

Smith introduced her to the group. Accelerators head coach James Hall was impressed with Smetana and offered her a roster spot.

"(Bryn) was never intimidated, never fearful," Hall said. "She never missed a workout. She was just solid. I just wish we had her three years ago."

Hall said the group generally doesn't add seniors to its depth chart. They made an exception for Smetana, though. Hall said she adjusted well to her role on the squad, too.

"Bryn is 'the woman' at Northville,"

Hall said, "but with the Accelerators, she had to become just another one of many. That can be hard for many talented athletes to adjust to, but Bryn wanted to get better and worked hard to lower her times.

"I'll miss her. I only coached her for this indoor season, but it seems like she's been with me for years."

Smetana said she heard about the group through a newspaper article. She said running with the Accelerators prepared her for her senior season.

Both Smith and Hall are confident in Smetana's abilities to succeed at a Division-I program.

Hall said he told Smetana she could run in the Mid-American Conference. Hall also said she will become an asset to her Chippewa running mates.

Smith said she was happy to hear Smetana chose Central over other schools.

"Central has a good program," Smith said.

"They have great coaches and great runners. I went to Central, too, so I obviously think she made a great choice."

Smetana said she is excited to start a new life in college.

"It'll be so much different," she said. "It's a whole new world for me with different classes and living in a dorm, but I'm confident I can succeed (in the NCAA). College life will be fun.

"I'm excited about a lot of things, but I know the classroom will be first and foremost."

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Service Period October 1, 2006 - September 30, 2009. Bidders must provide services in one or more of the following communities.

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Gibraltar
Grosse Ile Twp.
Huron Twp.

Inkster
Lincoln Park
Livonia
Melvindale
Northville
Northville Twp.
Plymouth
Plymouth Twp.
Redford Twp.
River Rouge
Riverview

Rockwood
Romulus
Southgate
Sumpter Twp.
Taylor
Trenton
Van Buren Twp.
Wayne
Westland
Woodhaven
Wyandotte

The Purchase of Service Bid Agreement documents are available on The Senior Alliance website at <http://www.aaalc.org/>. Please see "Doing Business with TSA/Purchase of Service (POS) Provider".

For more information please call (734) 727-2032.

Publish: May 18, 2006

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'06 Sierra 1500 4WD EMT

WAS \$32,695.00*
Lease 27 Months
\$182.72**
MO.
Total Due \$2182.00***
GMS \$22,994.00*



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'06 Envoy



Auto trans w/overdrive, polished aluminum wheel, power sunroof, Bose premium sound system XM satellite radio, AM/FM stereo w/6-disc cd, garage door opener, heated mirrors, overhead console, compass & temp, luggage back cross bars, air. Stock Number: G60034

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SPORTS

Romulus - Lady Eagle, Accelerator switches from gymnastics to earn track scholarship

FROM PAGE 9

13, she was slated as one of the top gymnasts in the state, earning the ranking of tenth level—a great accomplishment for such a young age. The next level would have been a chance at the Olympics. It was tough but Howard decided her happiness was more important.

“I was in gymnastics for seven years,” she said. “I was in there four hours a day, everyday. It was to the point where if I was either going to keep doing this and go to the Olympics or quit. The thought of doing it any longer actually made me sick.”

That made the decision easier. Howard quit around track season and figured she would give it a shot.

“In middle school track was the thing to do,” she explained. “When I started I couldn’t run a lap to save my life. I didn’t

even have track shoes so I had to run in my gym shoes. But I thought I was the junk because nobody could beat me. Then I got to high school and realized, hmm...maybe someone can beat me.”

Although she quit gymnastics, she carried the dedication, work ethic and focus needed to excel in it over to the track. So far, it has paid off.

She shines in every event she runs—mostly sprints—but will do whatever her coaches want her to on the track. Her favorite event, however, is the long jump. In competition she has cleared 18 feet, eight inches and as much as 19 feet, three inches in practice.

She’s a proven leader to her Romulus teammates and her Michigan Accelerators teammates in the off-season.

“She’s a total leader,” said Wade Cook, her track coach at Romulus and assistant

coach with the Accelerators. “Michigan State got a real winner. We’re very proud of her and very proud of what she’s done for us at the Accelerators and the Romulus Lady Eagle team. She’s the type of person that you wish you had about 15 of.”

Howard’s strength is evident on and off the field.

“She’s definitely a strong competitor,” said her father, Jackie Howard. “I’m very proud of her; there’s no doubt about it. She’s very strong individual, too. You have to be straight up with her or she will let you know.”

Although Howard is good at what she does on the track, she hit a major turning point when she was sidelined with a cheerleading ankle injury, according to Fran McCauley, the head coach of the Accelerators.

“When she hurt her ankle it forced her to watch rather than compete,” he said. “That really woke her up as far as things that are possible for her. She wasn’t able to participate for about four weeks. When she came back, she came back with a vengeance; she got so much faster and stronger and definitely focused. I don’t think she’s even reached her full potential yet. She has a long way to go.”

In the long run, Howard never guessed that track would lead to a scholarship and feels that it wouldn’t really be possible with out support.

“I’m proud of myself,” she said, “but I’m happy that I have family and friends that support what I do. Anytime that I feel like I want to stop or call it quits, somebody is always there for me and lets me know I can do it. I couldn’t have done any of this without my coaches.”

Inkster

FROM PAGE 9

father figure to me,” he said. “He’s helped me out every way that I can think of. As a coach, he’s always believed in me. As a person, he’s unbelievable.

“I’m also thankful for the help of the teaching staff at Inkster and their understanding of my situation,” he added. “The whole atmosphere at Inkster High School has been great. I hope to give back some day and as soon as possible.”

Some might say he already has.

Failure was never an option in Brown’s eyes. He hopes his perseverance will inspire others, especially his younger

brother Jarod Hughes, who faces adversity like he has.

“The most important thing is, I didn’t want tot let anyone down,” he said. “In my eyes I always thought that I was going to succeed. I have a little brother so it was mandatory that I got a scholarship just to show him that I was going to be something. I love setting examples for younger kids.”

Example set.

“This kid had every reason in the world to give up on life and be mean and cruel,” Paschal said. “He didn’t do that, he believed in me when I told him that hard work gives you blessings. I hope he learns that just because things don’t go the way you think they should go, to stay positive and live right, you will always get your blessings.”

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Bid 05/06-35 Crack Seal and
Joint Seal Maintenance Contract
OHM Job No. 0155-06-0051
May 15, 2006

Sealed Bids for Crack Seal and Joint Seal Maintenance Contract will be received at the office of the City of Romulus until 2:00 pm local time, on June 1, 2006, by Linda Choate, City Clerk, located at 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174. The approximate quantities of major items of work involved are as follows:

100,000 lbs of overband crack seal and 270,000 lft of concrete joint resealing

The Contract Documents for this project are on file and may be examined on and after 2:00 pm, May 15, 2006, at the following locations: the office of the ENGINEER, Orchard, Hiltz, & McCliment, Inc., 34000 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150; area offices of McGraw-Hill Construction Dodge Reports, 25330 Telegraph, Suite 350, Southfield, MI 48034; Reed Construction Data, 40000 Grand River, Suite 404, Novi, MI 48375; the Construction Association of Michigan (CAM), 43636 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-3204; and City of Romulus, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174.

Copies thereof may be obtained on or after 2:00 pm, local time, May 15, 2006, at the office of the ENGINEER, Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc., 34000 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150.

Bid Security in the form of a Bid Bond for a sum no less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the Bid will be required with each Bid.

The OWNER reserves the right to accept any Bid, reject any Bid, or waive irregularities in Bids.

Linda Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus

Publish: May 18, 2006

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
PLANNING COMMISSION
CHANGE OF LOCATION

The Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold meetings as described below on the South side of Van Buren Township to be held at **South Middle School; 45201 Owen Street**, City of Belleville, County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111.

The South Side Master Plan Amendment workshop meetings will take place on selected Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. during regularly scheduled Planning Commission Meetings.

South Side of Charter Township of Van Buren Master Plan Amendment workshop meetings are as follows:

March 8, 2006	March 22, 2006	April 26, 2006
May 24, 2006	June 28, 2006	July 26, 2006
August 23, 2006		

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

In the spirit of compliance with the American Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services, at least seventy two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Posted: February 24, 2006

Publish: March 2, 2006
March 16, 2006
April 13, 2006
May 18, 2006
June 22, 2006
July 20, 2006
August 17, 2006

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD MAY 1, 2006
IN THE ROMULUS CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER
11111 S. WAYNE ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Pro Tem William Wadsworth.

Present: John Barden, Ellen Craig-Bragg, LeRoy Burcroff, Harry Crout, William Crova, Randolph Gear, William Wadsworth.

Administrative Officials in Attendance:

Alan Lambert, Mayor
Linda R. Choate, CMC Clerk
Pamela Morrison/Kersey CMFA Treasure

1. Motion Crova, supported Barden to approve the agenda as

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes-Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-165

2. Motion by Wadsworth,Crova to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held April 24, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Abstain - Bragg, Burcroff, Gear.

Motion Carried.

06-166

3A. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crout to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission a deny PC-2005-050; the rezoning of approximately 1.86+-acres of R1-A, Single Family Residentia/RCOD, Rural Character Overlay District and 88+-acres of M-1, Light Industrial District to MT-2, Industrial Transportation 2 District consistent with the recommendation of the City Planner memorandum dated January 30, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Bragg to accept the Chairperson’s Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-167

5A. Motion by Barden, supported by Crova to concur with the recommendation of Patrick Hogan, Acting DPW Director, and recognize May 21, 2006 through May 27, 2006 as National Public Works Week in the City of Romulus.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-168

5B1. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Bragg to concur with the recommendation

of Maria Lambert, DDA Director/Pumpkin Festival Co-Director, to authorize a no-fee permit for all Pumpkin Festival and Parade of Lights activities during the Pumpkin Festival Weekend, September 15 - September 17, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-169

5B2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Barden to concur with the request from Maria Lambert, DDA Director/ Pumpkin Festival Co-Director, and authorize the closure of Goddard Road from Hunt to Romaine Streets and Shook Road from Bibbins Street to Goddard Road from 2:00 p.m. Friday, September 15, 2006 through 7:00 p.m. Sunday, September 17, 2006 for Pumpkin Festival Weekend.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-170

6A1. Motion by Crova, supported by Bragg to approve second reading and final adoption of Budget Amendments 05/06-28, 05/06-30, 05/06-31 and 05/06-32 introduced at the regular meeting of the Romulus City council held April 24, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-171

10. Motion by Crova, supported by Barden to adopt a memorial resolution to the family of Jessica Hargress.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Bragg to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held May 1, 2006.

Linda Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: May 18, 2006

CLASSIFIED

01. Obituaries
02. In Memoriam
03. Cards of Thanks
04. Monuments
& Cemetery Plots
05. Personals/Announcements
06. Legal Notices
07. Attorneys
08. Entertainment
09. Lost & Found
10. Coming Events
30. Help Wanted

31. Help Wanted Sales
32. Help Wanted Drivers
33. Child Care
34. Specialized Services
35. Situations Wanted
40. Business Opportunity
42. Health and Fitness
43. Money to Loan
44. Music/Art Lessons
45. Adult Care
46. Private Schools/Instruction
47. Riding/Horses/Stables

50. Pets & Supplies
54. Rummage Sales
55. Estate Sales
56. Flea Markets
57. Antiques
58. Garage and Yard Sales
59. Auctions
60. Misc. Sales
61. Misc. Items
62. Building Supplies
63. Business and Office Equipment

64. Lawn & Garden Supplies
65. Tree Service
66. Landscape / Nurseries
67. Garden Plant / Supplies
68. Garden / Produce
70. Masonry / Brickwork
72. Machinery Tools
73. Musical Merchandise
74. Sporting Goods
75. Boats / Accessories
76. Remodeling & Renovations
77. Recreation Vehicles

78. Hunting / Fishing
82. Wanted to Buy
87. Room for Rent
88. Duplexes for Rent
89. Apartments for Rent
90. Condos/Townhouses for Rent
92. Business Places for Rent
93. Banquet Halls
94. Farm Land for Rent
95. Real Estate
96. Houses for Rent
97. Cottages for Rent

98. Mobile Homes for Rent
99. Flats for Rent
100. Will Share
101. Wanted to Rent
102. Storage
103. Business Property for Sale
104. Farms & Acreage for Sale
105. Mobile Homes for Sale
106. Houses for Sale
107. Condos/Townhouses for Sale
108. Lake and Resort
109. Income Property

110. Lots for Sale
111. Out of State Property
112. Commercial Lease
113. Real Estate Wanted
114. Auto Accessories
115. Autos for Sale
116. Antique & Classic Cars
117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
118. Freebies
119. Auto Repairs
120. Motorcycles
121. Autos Wanted

1. Obituaries

MELLON, Terry L. age 56 of Westland.
Beloved husband of Delores M. Loving father of Jeremy (Krystak) Mellon, Beth Marshall, and Robert Marshall. Dear grandfather of Justin, Briana, Jessica, Patrick, Alexander, Anthony, Jonathan, Sarah, Katlin, Brianna, Chloe and Nicholas.
Terry is also survived by two brothers Dale and Gene Mellon, one sister Andrea Coron, Stepmother Mallie Mellon and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother and father Coryell and VerJean Mellon and three brothers. Funeral service will be held Friday at 1PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Rd., Westland (bet. Ford and Cherry Hill). Visitation is on Thurs. from 2-9PM. Memorial donations to the family fund would be appreciated.
To leave a message of condolence for the family, log on to: vermeulenfuneralhome.com

30. Help Wanted

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54. Rummage Sales

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May 18th & 19th
9:00am - 5:00pm
May 20th
9:00am - noon

RUMMAGE SALE
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5885 Venoy Rd.
Westland, MI

May 25 - 27
Thurs. & Fri.
8:00am - 4:30pm
Saturday
9:00am - Noon

Friday - 1/2 off day
Saturday - \$5 bag day

58. Garage and Yard Sales

Canton Brookside Village
Subdivision Wide Garage Sale
Cherry Hill & Lotz.
May 18, 19, 20 & 21

ALL-SUB GARAGE SALE
Lakes of Northville
Six Mile / Wincester
(1 mile w. of Haggerty)
Sat. May 20
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Glenwood Heights
Subwide Sale
and several moving sales
May 18, 19 & 20
9am - 5pm
Michigan & Newburgh

59. Auctions

Michigan State Police
Dept.

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction, May 31, 2006 at 10 AM, at:

J & M Towing
8964 Inkster Rd.
Romulus, MI

1987 Ford
1FABP45E8HF162120

1998 Jeep
1J4GZ78YXWC185408

Please note: The bidding will start at the towing and storage charges.

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction on May 31, 2006 at 10:00 AM at:

34. Specialized Services

BRATCHER ELECTRIC
COMPLETE CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SINCE 1956
Remodeling • Service • City Repairs
734-722-0037
35728 Van Born • Wayne

J & M Towing
8964 Inkster Rd.
Romulus, MI 48174

1998 Ford
1FDNF80C0WVA21094

1993 Plymouth
1P3XP24DXPN681574

1985 Ford
1FTDE14Y7FHA71800

1989 Mercury
2MEBM75F9KX732682

1996 Plymouth
2P4FP25B6TR554774

1994 Pontiac
2G2NE1539RM620906

1991 Mercury
1MEPM604XMH616142

1985 Honda
JH2J50103KM000680

1988 Toyota
JT2SV21E9J3203574

1992 Oldsmobile
1G3HY53L3NH347071

1991 Mitsubishi
4A3CS44R3NE075161

1995 Chrysler
2C3HD56T4SH567496

1994 Ford
1ZVLT20AXR5150204

1999 Ford
1FAFP53U1XG174135

1994 Dodge
2B4HB25Y9RK548921

Please Note: The bidding will start at the towing and storage charges

AUTO AUCTION
J & T Crova Towing
36573 Grant St.
Romulus, MI 48174
(734) 941-0221

Wednesday, May 31, 2006
9:00AM

1992 Semi Trailer
1DW1A5329NS791713

1999 Dodge Neon 4 Dr
1B3ES47C1XD152185

1997 Chevy Cavalier 4 Dr
1G1JC5247V7175880

1995 Ford F150
1FTEX14H2SKB36242

These vehicles were towed by the Romulus Police

61. Misc. Items

FULL Size Orthopedic 2 Piece Mattress Set. All "NEW" in plastic with manufacturer warranty. \$120.00 (734) 721-3799

Queen Size Orthopedic Pillow Top Mattress Set "New" in plastic w/full factory warranty. Can deliver. \$150.00 734-326-2744

KING Size 3 piece non-flip Pillow Top Mattress and Box Set. Brand "NEW" in orig. wrapper with full manufacturer warranty. \$240 -(734)721-3799

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87. Rooms For Rent

AAA Willow Acres Motel, low daily and weekly rates. Refrigerator, microwave, HBO. Call 734-721-1220 Tel-96 Inn 313-535-4100 Fairlane in Novi 248-347-9999

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88. Duplexes For Rent

WAYNE
2225 Delton Ct.,
Wildwood/Palmer area 3
Bedroom, shed
\$675/month
\$325 Security Deposit
Call 734-522-1512

WAYNE
Beautiful 2-bedroom duplex, w/dining room, full basement, C/A Lawn maint. inc. \$700/month. \$1,760 move-in No Pets 734-427-7545

WESTLAND-NORWAYNE
Call for list of available 2 & 3 BR duplexes, and single family homes. Section 8 welcome. Lead safe units available. Professional full-time management. Norplex Associates 734-722-6444 EHO

89. Apartments For Rent

Wayne & Mich. area, Apts. for rent. Fully furnished and clean. From \$115 per week 6 mon. minimum lease Free heat, electric and water. 35641 Brush St., Next To Kroger in Downtown Wayne Call 734-890-2033 For further info.

WAYNE
Near Wayne Road Very quiet and clean 1-bedroom. Heat and water included. Ideal for singles and retirees. No Pets \$450/month with approved credit Sec. 8 welcome 313-561-9818 or 313-247-2075

WAYNE, MI
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Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:30PM.
Pastor Earl Duncan
Morningstar Church
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Garden City, MI 48135
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96. Houses For Rent

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3 BR Ranch, aluminum sided, double lot, fenced, recently inspected
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INKSTER

3BR Ranch, 1.5 baths, air, alarm, semi-finished basement, appliances
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INKSTER

3BR brick, basement
Option 2 buy
\$675

INKSTER

4BR, garage remodeled
Sec. 8 ok
\$695

Many Homes Available

RENTAL PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

LIVONIA

3 BR ranch, A/C
2-car garage, clean, fenced yard
\$895/mon.
586-817-1846

ROMULUS

5BR, 2 baths Basement
Option 2 buy
\$850

WAYNE

3BR, appliances
2-car garage, pets ok
\$850

RENTAL PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

WAYNE

2 BR, full basement, C/A, No pets
Lease agreement
Subject to credit check
\$800/month
Call: 734-728-1220

WAYNE

Bungalow, opt. 2 buy
Pets negotiable
\$750

BELLEVILLE

3BR, basement, shed
Appliances
\$850

All Cities Available

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734-513-RENT

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Ranch, large laundry
Fenced 4 pets
\$635

WESTLAND

3BR, garage, air
Fenced, option 2 buy
\$700

Several Homes Available

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105. Mobile Homes-Lots

CANTON

Owner financed
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106. Houses For Sale

INKSTER

29549 Hazelwood
For Sale or Lease
3 Bedrooms, C/A,
Partially finished full basement,
1 car garage
Buy \$110,000 or
Lease \$780.00/month
Call 734-722-4749

INKSTER OPEN HOUSE

29655 Spring Arbor
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112. Commercial Lease

Office Space for Lease -
Downtown Wayne - located on Mich. Ave. Call 734-729-4555 for more info.

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115. Autos For Sale

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Power mirrors, locks, windows, seat, moonroof, 17" Aluminum Sport Wheels, Cruise, tilt, CD, wiper delay, OnStar, rear air/heat, radio controls in steering wheel, rear wiper/washer, lumbar seats, keyless entry, alarm system
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734-525-0900

118. Freebies

2-Wheel Bench Grinder
\$25.00
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5 person Cal Spa
Hot tub FREE
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Handheld Cummins
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Heavy Duty Handheld Car
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734-455-6509

Call
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to place
your ad.

121. Autos Wanted

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For Junk, Disabled or
Wrecked Cars
Drive it in or we'll pick it up
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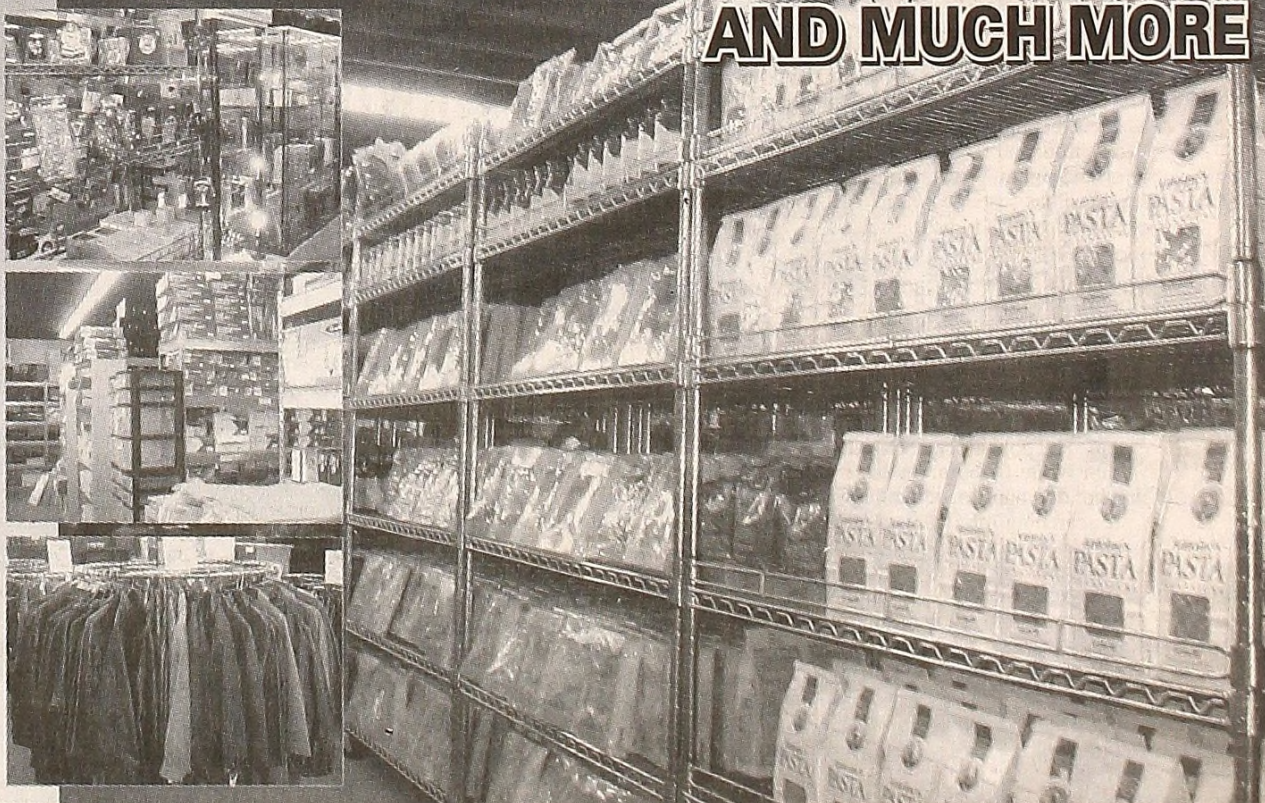
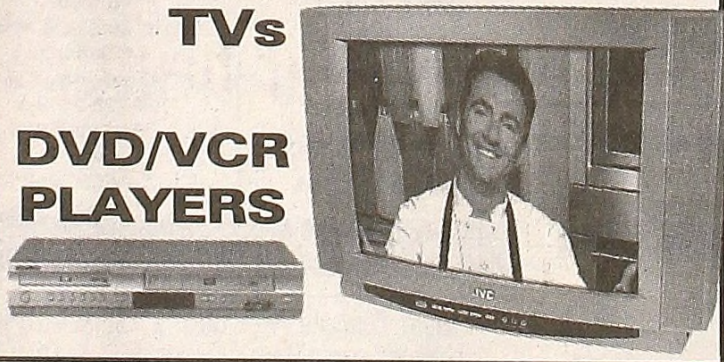
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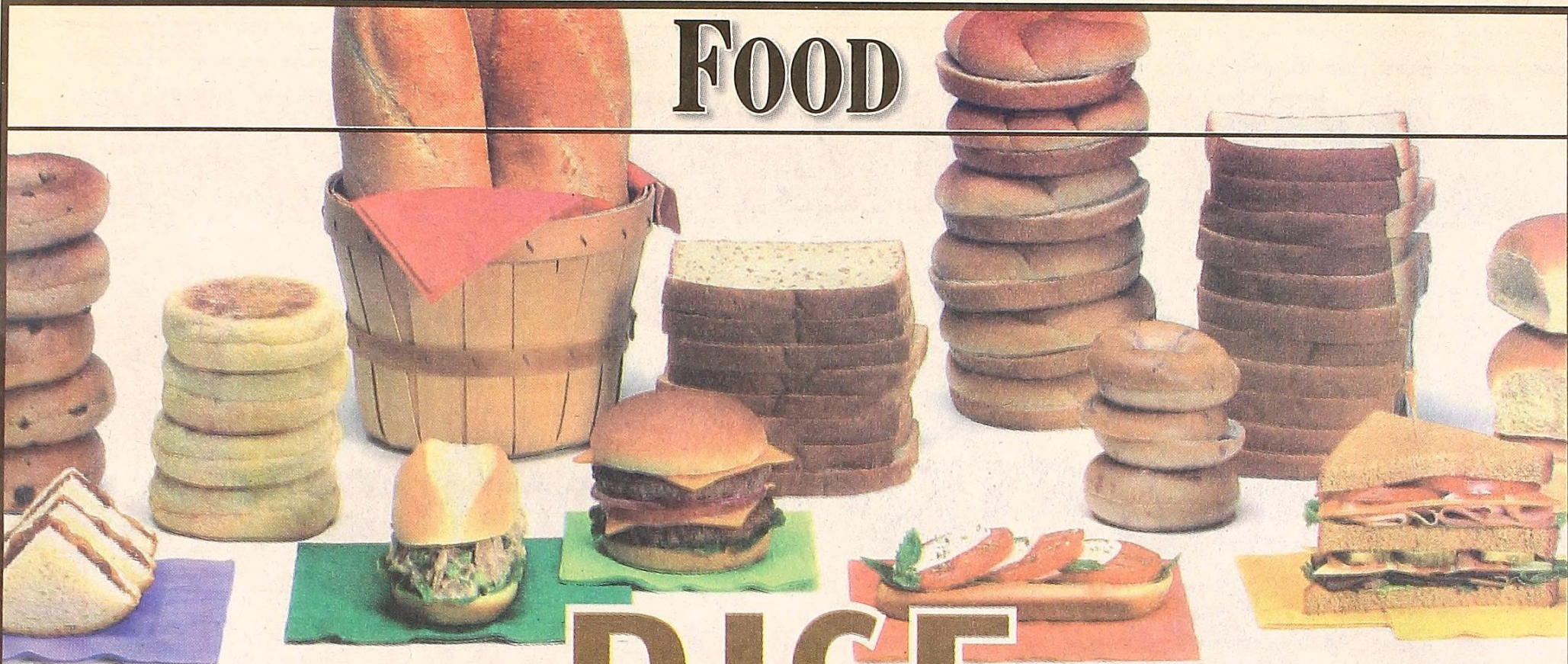
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FOOD



Breads RISE Again

Americans decide
they can't live
without it

FAMILY FEATURES

Bread is back. Like a pop star re-emerging from public hiatus, popularity of the soft stuff has returned with its innovative, reinvented self image.

Americans are leaving the low-carb craze behind and embracing their undeniable urge for the ultimate comfort food. In fact, 98 percent of households nationwide include bread at the center of the table. Today consumers are clamoring for "quality" carbs. With the new dietary guidelines emphasizing whole grain, a higher caliber of products — from white to wheat — are available for a wide range of tastes. That means there's something for everyone.

Good Ol' Fashioned White

No longer is guilt associated with enjoying the taste of white bread. More people are finding solace in the fact that white bread is not devoid of nutrients, but enriched with a bevy of beneficial nutrients. Minerals, such as iron, and B-vitamins like folic acid, niacin, and riboflavin are baked right into white bread. Even with the undue bad rap that white bread has sustained in the past, market research has shown white bread products to be top sellers — earning 57 percent of total bread sales last year.

White Meets Wheat

Now, white breads are going beyond the status quo with the introduction of breads that combine whole grain with white bread flour. The blending of a "special white whole-grain flour" with traditional white flour allows the authentic taste, texture, and softness of white bread to remain — with the added health benefits that come from whole grain. The popularity of Sara Lee Soft & Smooth Made with Whole Grain White Bread prompted the introduction of white hamburger and hot dog buns made with a whole grain blend. "Consumers are searching for a way to get more whole grain into their diet," says Frances Coletta, Ph.D., R.D. and director of product nutrition for Sara Lee Food & Beverage. "Products made with a blend of whole-grain and white flour will help many white bread lovers make the transition to whole-grain foods without shocking their taste buds."

Whole Grain Virtues

For some consumers, it's whole grain or nothing. Is it the nutty taste, hearty texture, or health benefits that make whole-grain bread so appealing? Perhaps it's all of the above. With more than 400 whole-grain foods introduced last year, according to ProductScan, there is no denying that whole grains are in.

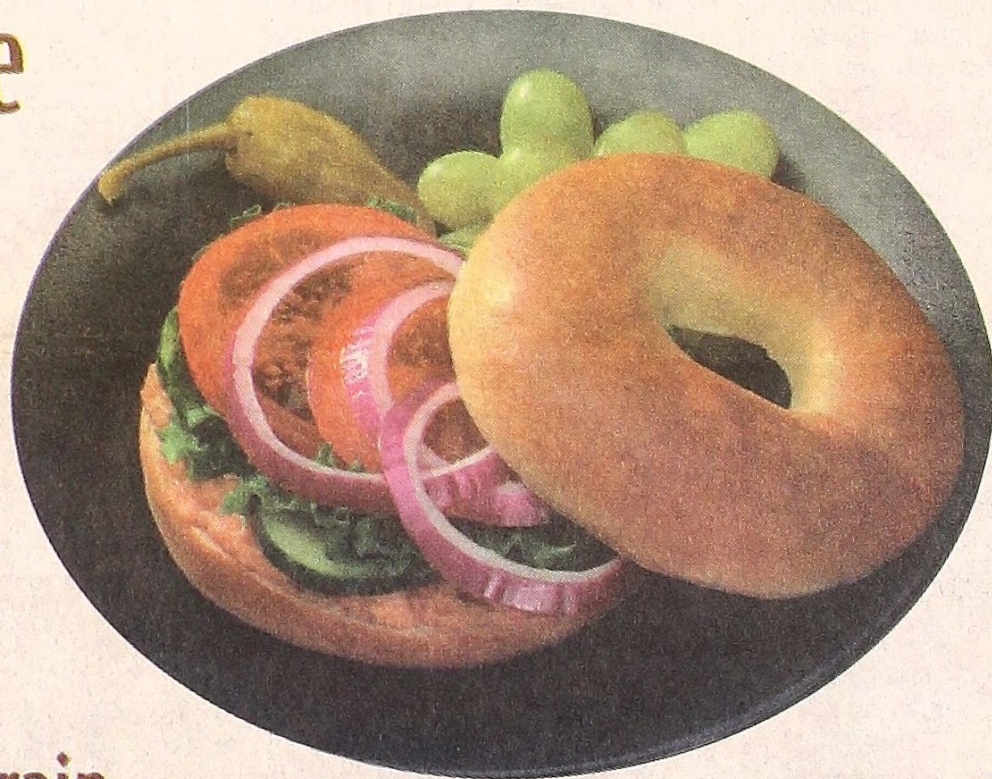
New dietary guidelines encourage consumers to aim for a daily dose of three or more one-ounce servings of whole-grain products, and shoppers are urged to get at least half of their grains from whole grain sources. Not only does whole grain bread aid in weight loss and management, but studies have shown it to reduce high cholesterol levels, stave off type 2 diabetes, certain cancers, and normalize blood pressure levels.

For more straightforward, no-nonsense nutritional information about bread, visit www.breadrules.com.

Whole grain in white bread? Absolutely.

White or brown, enriched or whole wheat — what is the real difference? Whole wheat flour is made from the "whole" wheat grain or all three parts — the bran, germ, and endosperm. White flour is made just from the soft endosperm of the wheat grain and is typically bleached for a whiter color. But white whole wheat is made from all three parts of a special variety of wheat that is milder in taste, lighter in color, and softer in texture.

For years, shoppers have associated brown bread with health. Then, the paradigm shifted when whole-grain white breads hit the shelves in 2005. The question on everyone's mind is, how is it possible for a white bread to be made with whole grain? By using the white whole wheat, even if it is blended with regular white flour, white wheat bread contains more nutrients than before, thanks to the addition of whole grain. "We're using a blend of enriched white flour and white whole wheat flour to create breads, buns, bagels, and English muffins that taste, look, and have the appearance of traditional products, but offer the nutrition of whole grain," says Frances Coletta, Ph.D., R.D. and director of product nutrition for Sara Lee Food & Beverage. Consumers are responding favorably, as Sara Lee's Whole Grain White bread is the No. 1 selling bread in the country.



Vegetarian Bagel Sandwich

Makes: 1 sandwich

- 1 Sara Lee Made With Whole Grain Plain Bagel
- 3 tablespoons hummus
- 4 slices cucumber
- 2 leaves lettuce
- 2 slices tomato
- 2 thin slices red onion
- 1 slice pepperoncini

Spread hummus over both halves of bagel. Layer on cucumber slices, lettuce leaves, tomato slices, onion and pepperoncini.

Better-for-your-health TIPS

In addition to opting for breads that are made with whole grain, try these tips to make your next sandwich a healthier one:

Do some crunches: Add sliced fresh bell peppers to your sandwich for an extra crunch and a healthy dose of vitamin C.

Fire up the grill: Toss some veggies over the flame, then slice and pile them on top of your meat, or eat them alone for added flavor and nutrients.

Spice things up: Add salsa to your next sandwich in place of other condiments for a fat-free kick.

Get taste with even less fat:

Instead of regular mayonnaise, try using hummus as your spreadable condiment of choice. Hummus is not only a heart-healthy, low-fat substitution, it will also add texture!

Go wild with fish: Get a dose of healthy omega-3 fats by layering a couple of thin slices of lox on top of sliced tomato and low-fat cream cheese.

Spread your nuts: Spoon on a tablespoon of natural almond butter and all-fruit spread for a delicious, cholesterol-lowering treat.

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2006 F150 Supercab 4x4



Was.....\$31,185

A-Plan Price

\$19,989.00*

A-Plan
24 Month Lease/
10,500 mi.

Stock #60761

Silver clearcoat metallic, cloth, AM/FM stereo/clock/single CD, 4.6 L EFI V8 engine, electronic 4-spd auto O/D, P255/70R17 owl all-terrain, sliding rear window, speed control, trailer tow package, 17" chrome clad steel wheels, sat radio w/6 mos service, privacy glass.

Sign & Drive	\$188.96**	
Zero Down	\$1694.3**	Total Due At Signing: \$472.60
\$1000 Down	\$1274.6**	Total Due At Signing: \$1488.11

2006 Mustang Coupe

Was.....\$23,660

A-Plan Price \$19,146.20*



A Plan
24 Month Lease Renewal
10,500 mi. per year

SIGN & DRIVE	\$286.47*
ZERO DOWN	\$269.53*
1000 DOWN	\$226.56*

Redfire clearcoat, dark charcoal cloth, 120A-prem coupe V6, AM/FM stereo, 6-CD in dash, power driver's seat, manual air conditioning, rear window defroster, V6 engine, 5-speed auto transmission, 17" alum mini spare w/tire, anti-lock brakes, traction control, 17" premium painted cast alum, pony center cap, interior upgrade package, chrome exh tip *DLR-Inst'd-ACC, Pony Sprnr CPS *DLR-Inst'd-ACC.

2006 Explorer Eddie Bauer 4 Dr.

Was.....\$30,985 Stock #62881

A-Plan Price \$22,958.55*



A Plan
24 Month Lease Renewal
10,500 mi. per year

SIGN & DRIVE	\$225.22*
ZERO DOWN	\$203.47*
1000 DOWN	\$160.90*

Dark cherry clearcoat, Pueblo gold accent paint, running boards, air conditioning, CFC Free, floor mats, C/K carpet, 4.0L SOHC V6 engine, 5-speed automatic O/D trans, A/T owl tires, cargo area cover, roof rail cross bars.

2006 Escape XLT FWD

Was.....\$24,480

A-Plan Price \$18,623.93*



A Plan
24 Month Lease Renewal
10,500 mi. per year

SIGN & DRIVE	\$269.32*
ZERO DOWN	\$251.06*
1000 DOWN	\$208.79*

Silver metallic clearcoat, med drd Flint prem cloth, power 6-way driver seat, floor mats-front and rear, speed control, air conditioning, Duratec 2.3L I4 Engine, 4-speed automatic O/D trans, A/S BSW tires, power moonroof w/ shade mini-oh console, sun & sound discount, rear cargo storage bin, retractable cargo cover, Audph/6-CD in dash/sat cap.

2006 500 FWD SEL

Was.....\$25,980

A-Plan Price \$18,745.60*



A Plan
24 Month Lease Renewal
10,500 mi. per year

SIGN & DRIVE	\$224.37*
ZERO DOWN	\$206.24*
1000 DOWN	\$164.07*

Dark blue pearl, shale leather seating, AM/FM/CDx6 MP3 radio, dual auto A/C, 17" 7-spk aluminum w/lug nuts, fog lamps, message center, steering wheel audio controls, 6-speed trans., V-6 engine, non-memory adjustable pedals, leather seating.

2006 Fusion SE

Was.....\$19,800

A-Plan Price \$14,523.60*



A Plan
24 Month Lease Renewal
10,500 mi. per year

SIGN & DRIVE	\$189.66*
ZERO DOWN	\$173.93*
1000 DOWN	\$131.05*

Black clear coat, dark charcoal cloth bucket, 2.3 L I4 engine, 5-speed auto transmission, SE sport package, AM/FM/MP3 6 CDx player w/ clock, aluminum wheels, fog lamps.

2006 Focus ZX5 SE 5 Door

Was.....\$18,770

A-Plan Price \$12,594.00*



A Plan
24 Month Lease Renewal
10,500 mi. per year

SIGN & DRIVE	\$168.58*
ZERO DOWN	\$154.41*
1000 DOWN	\$111.74*

Pitch black clearcoat, charcoal cloth, power side windows, convenience group, integrated fog lamps, CFC FREE air conditioning, 16" alloy wheels, power locks, automatic transaxle, BSW tires, weather package, heated seats power heated mirrors, anti lock brakes.

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2007 Sport Trac XLT

Black clearcoat, light stone cloth bucket, XLT, 16" cast aluminum wheels, AM/FM single CD/MP3, 4.0L SOHC 2V V6, 5 speed automatic transmission, SE sport package, automatic headlamps, entry keypad, autodimming rear view mirror, hard tonneau cover, leatherwrapped steering wheel.

Stock #70007

Was.....\$25,860

A-Plan Price \$21,698.60*

A Plan
24 Month Lease Renewal - 10,500 mi. per year

SIGN & DRIVE	\$305.06*
ZERO DOWN	\$286.24*
1000 DOWN	\$243.47*

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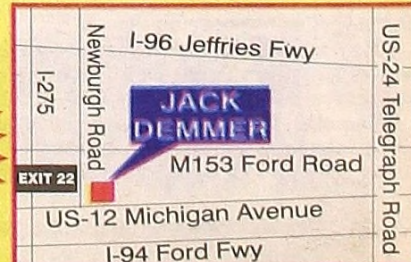
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